

## **INTP “THINK-TANK EXPERTS”**

**\*‘ DELPHINIUM’—**

*\*(excerpted from *Blending Temperaments* book)*

**INTPs** share their unique typing with 1% of the nation . Their by-line is “ideas under construction.” They strive to be exact and original at the same time. Their sophisticated concentration ability and respect for intelligence sometimes projects an arrogant atmosphere, often intimidating people who conclude they are not as smart as the INTP.

INTPs prefer to think up solutions or design rather than carry out the routine details of physical creation. Consequently, the finishers often receive the credit for INTP’s work.

Because they live and move in the impersonal analytical and logical world, INTPs are hard to understand and are often totally unaware of the individual needs and feelings of others. Many INTPs relish the freedom, freshness and privacy of the great outdoors. Like the INTJ, INTPs can really get hooked on the computer world because understanding something complex and bigger than themselves is a challenge they can’t resist. However, like other intuitives, after they master a technique, they’ll wish to leave it.

Theory is INTP’s middle name, and brainstorming is their hobby. Because INTP’s minds are always swirling with abstract ideas, they often present an unemotional, sober—even uncaring—attitude toward family and friends. When they get involved in a project, they may not emerge from the “lab” for 36 hours. Time for INTPs is not measured by hours. They may even redesign the sequence of time to suit their own needs.

Their desks and personal possessions and even their appearance may present a disheveled look. But they know where important things are; dress does not usually concern them much. You can please INTPs by respecting their ideas.

## **THE INDIVIDUAL LETTERS MEAN...**

**I •INTROVERSION**—means you prefer privacy to people. You think before you speak and say what you mean. Being with people for long periods not only exhausts you but bores you.

**N •INTUITION**—indicates your choice in the way of gathering information—through ideas, design and possibilities. You are challenged by theoretical and technical developments. Needing to improve over yesterday’s accomplishment is the first commandment in your eyes. Recognition for your ideas is more important than monetary gain.

**T •THINKING**—indicates that the decisions you make are based on systematic logic more than on feeling or emotions. Your decisions stick until someone close to you strongly persuades you to relent. Learning to express appreciation for others and their efforts would be a worthy goal to adopt.

**P •(Perceptive) SPONTANEOUS**—indicates that you deal with the world through your perception process which is Intuition. You may let responsibilities slide—especially those you consider unimportant or boring, and finish at the last minute or just a few days late. You want every endeavor to be enjoyable, else you have a difficult time investing your time and effort. Making logical and systematic decisions is your favorite process which you reserve for yourself.

**\*In God’s flower-garden, an INTP is a delphinium—Delicate blossoms, usually blue, with a spur sticking up behind on tall stems. Independent *Think-tank Experts***

# TIPS ON TEMPERAMENT MANAGEMENT

## "INTP "THINK-TANK EXPERTS" \*' DELPHINIUM'

**T**emperament does NOT label or limit a person, but rather frees one to be who they were designed to be. Discovering temperament completely changes some peoples' view of themselves and others, improving their self esteem and giving them a new lease on life. Others who have not struggled with low self worth, having never been put in a box, just appreciate knowing the legitimate differences in people, and make few immediate adjustments.

Temperament does not determine attitudes. Two people sharing the same temperament preferences may exhibit very different dispositions. Temperament can be compared to musical chords in various keys... distinctive in their own right, but enhanced when blended with tones from other keys. The more skilled the musician, the more beautiful the melody.

Occasionally people will use temperament preferences to excuse inappropriate or tactless behavior such as:

- "Don't fault me for giving you the silent treatment; I'm an Introvert."
- "I'm late, but it's OK; I'm Spontaneous".
- "You know how Extraverts are; we can't help but ask personal questions."
- "I have every right to do this job differently each time because I'm an Intuitive."
- "I've always done it this way and that's the way Sensing people are."

Temperament is a wonderful tool, but is not to be used as a hammer to beat someone over the head. Some people dislike being analyzed, categorized or discussed. Respect their privacy.

You are more than just an INTP. You are like a house with many rooms, acting and responding a little differently depending on which room you're in, with whom and under what circumstances.

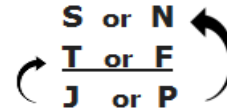
Every normal person is a blend of reserved/cautious Introversion; outgoing/confident Extraversion; fact & figures/hands-on Sensing; ideas & possibility iNtuitive; organized/closure Structure (J); open ended/crises sPontaneous (P). Temperament merely identifies our most natural or favorite way of acting or responding to people and situations

Everyone Extraverts their last letter: 'J' or 'P'. 'J' reflects the decision making preference—Thinking or Feeling; 'P' reflects information gathering preference—Sensing or iNtuitiion.

Introverts' last letter happens to be their second favorite preference, but because it is used on the world, it becomes their best developed function.

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Extracted from *Self-Esteem—Gift From God*, (Smyth & Helwys). Other related titles: *Coaching Kids—Practical Tips for Effective Communication* by Jim and Ruth Ward (Smyth & Helwys);

This final column explains the order which individuals access their four preferences. Although the information is beneficial, not everyone desires to digest it fully. Hopefully, a quick reading will reveal understanding for behavior. Don't miss the last paragraph's thumb-nail for your temperament.



Introverts prefer to reserve use of their first and favorite preference for private use. Since Introverts are forced to use their second preference through Extraversion, they develop both the first and second functions.

Extraverts' last letter is their first and favorite preference which they easily Extravert on the world. However, since Extraverts prefer to use their favorite preference on the world, they often neglect developing their second preference.

Opposite our first preference is our fourth (least) preference.

Opposite our second preference is our third preference..

Purposely using less preferred preferences encourages healthy balance and enables better handling of different situations more wisely—produces a clearer and more beautiful melody. We can get "visas" anytime to enter the camps of our less preferred functions. Even though we will feel strange or awkward as we consult the third and fourth functions—our shadow side camps—we'll benefit from the practice and use of those helpers.

**I**  
**N 2 S 3**  
**T 1 F 4**  
**P**

### THUMB-NAIL:

Yours is an unusual type - INTP - one that will possibly leave you feeling like an alien at times, especially in high school and around home, until people understand you and appreciate your unique gifting. This is your thumbprint on society. Enjoy it and endeavor to verbalize appreciation for others at the same time.

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